

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 to 29 without prejudice and add the following device claims 30 to 58; Group I claims drawn to a device for supplying fluid media to a process chamber are elected for further prosecution.

Claims 1 to 29 (canceled).

30.(new) A device for supplying at least one fluid medium to a process chamber, said device having at least one delivery line (17), said at least one delivery line each having a supply opening (18) and sealing elements associated with the supply opening (18), characterized by tensioning mechanisms (30, 31) for holding each of the at least one delivery line (17) against a respective receptacle (15) provided in the process chamber (10), said receptacle being associated with the supply opening (18).

31.(new) The device as defined in claim 30, wherein the tensioning mechanisms include at least one spring (30, 31).

32.(new) The device as defined in claim 31, wherein said at least one spring (30,31) is at least one helical spring.

33.(new) The device as defined in claim 30, wherein a tensioning force for holding each of the at least one delivery line (17) against said respective receptacle (15) is

produced, at least in part, by means of ambient pressure.

34.(new) The device as defined in claim 31, further comprising a guideway for guiding each of the at least one delivery line (17) in a tensioning direction.

35.(new) The device as defined in claim 34, wherein the at least one delivery line (17), at an end thereof furthest from the supply opening (18), is connected in a gas-tight and axially displaceable manner, via fastening elements for gas-tight fastening, to a receiving chamber (12) and said receiving chamber encloses the process chamber (10).

36.(new) The device as defined in claim 35, wherein each of said at least one delivery line (17), at said furthest end thereof, is fastened to a central body (22), said central body (22) is connected to a mounting flange (16) by a bellows (23) and said mounting flange (16) is attached to said receiving chamber (12).

37.(new) The device as defined in claim 36, wherein said guideway comprises at least one bolt (24) extending from the mounting flange (16) and spring hangers (26, 28; 27, 29) arranged on the at least one bolt (24); said central body (22) is displaceably guided on said at least one bolt (24); and the at least one spring (30, 31) is located on said at least one bolt and arranged between said spring hangers (26, 28; 27, 29) and the central body (22).

38.(new) The device as defined in claim 37, further comprising adjusting means for adjusting tension in the at least one spring (30, 31).

39.(new) The device as defined in claim 38, wherein the at least one bolt (24) is threaded, and the spring hangers comprise at least one nut (26, 27) screwed onto the at least one bolt (24), said means for adjusting the tension comprising said at least one nut (26,27).

40.(new) The device as defined in claim 30, wherein frontal areas (19) of each of the at least one delivery line (17) surrounding the supply opening (18) engage with the process chamber (10) in a press fit.

41.(new) The device as defined in claim 40, wherein the frontal areas (19) of each of the at least one delivery line (17) that surround the supply opening (18) are conical, frusto-conical or semi-spherical, and wherein said receptacle (15) comprises a conical, frusto-conical or semi-spherical cavity in the process chamber (10) and the frontal areas (19) are associated with the cavity.

42.(new) The device as defined in claim 41, wherein the at least one delivery line (17) is composed of a temperature-resistant and corrosion-resistant material.

43.(new) The device as defined in claim 41, wherein the at least one delivery line (17) is composed of graphite.

44.(new) The device as defined in claim 30, wherein the at least one delivery line (17) each has an extension (20), each of said at least one delivery line (17) at a furthest end thereof from the supply opening (18) is fastened to a central body (22), said central body (22) is connected to a mounting flange (16) by a bellows (23) and said mounting flange (16) is attached to a receiving chamber (12), which encloses the process chamber (10).

45.(new) The device as defined in claim 44, further comprising blocking elements (53, 54) for said at least one fluid medium, said blocking elements being arranged in each of the at least one delivery line (17).

46(new). The device as defined in claim 45, wherein the blocking elements (53, 54) are operative to block the supply opening for each of the at least one fluid medium.

47.(new) The device as defined in claim 45, wherein the blocking elements (53, 54) comprise a respective needle valve in each of the at least one delivery line (17).

48. (new) The device as defined in claim 47, wherein the needle valve has a valve needle (48) with a conical, spherical or semi-spherical tip (53) and a conical, spherical or semi-spherical valve seat (54) located in the vicinity of the supply

opening (18), said valve seat (54) facing the valve needle (48) and associated with said valve needle.

49.(new) The device as defined in claim 48, further comprising an actuating element (40) for the needle valve (53, 54) and wherein said actuating element (40) is located on an end of the at least one delivery line (17) that is remote from the supply opening (18).

50.(new) The device as defined in claim 49, wherein the actuating element (40) is connected with said central body (22).

51.(new) The device as defined in claim 48, wherein the valve needle (48) is pre-loaded against the valve seat (54) with a predetermined closing force.

52.(new) The device as defined in claim 51, wherein the valve needle (48) has a weight acting thereon to provide said closing force.

53.(new) The device as defined in claim 50, further comprising tension parts (46, 47) connected with the valve needle.

54.(new) The device as defined in claim 53, wherein the tension parts (46, 47) comprises means for transmitting a tensioning force, but not a compressive force.

55.(new) The device as defined in claim 54, wherein the tension parts comprise a first tension part (46) and a second tension part (47), said first tension part (46) is connected with the actuating element (40), said second tension part (47) is connected with the valve needle (48), and said tension parts are connected with each other in a limited region or area so that said tension parts are displaceable toward each other.

56.(new) The device as defined in claim 55, wherein the first tension part (46) and the second tension part (47) are connected by an elongated hole (51) provided in the first tension part (46) and a carrying element (52) connected with the second tension part (47), said carrying element (52) being engaged in said elongated hole (51).

57.(new) The device as defined in claim 53, wherein the tension parts (46, 47) are connected with one end of another bellows (34), another end of said another bellows (34) is connected with said central body (22), and wherein the one end of said another bellows (34) is capable of being displaced by the actuating element (40) in the longitudinal direction of the tension parts (46, 47).

58.(new) A processing clevice, said processing device comprising
a tank with a tank wall,
a process container with a container wall, said process container being
located in the tank,

at least one pipe extending through at least one opening provided in the tank wall, said at least one pipe comprising means for supplying or withdrawing a fluid medium into or out of the process container, the at least one pipe each having a pipe axis and a first bore hole in a first axial pipe end adjacent to the process container and the process container having a second bore hole in said container wall, the second bore hole being diametrically opposite to the first bore hole, sealing means for sealing each of the at least one pipe, in a fluid-tight manner, in the at least one opening provided in the tank wall, guideway means for moveably guiding said at least one pipe relative to the tank in a pipe axis direction, and a tensile force-producing device for producing a tensile force that presses the at least one pipe in the pipe axis direction and against the container wall of the process container.